Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-73. **(Cancelled)**

74. **(Currently Amended)** A method of preparing a therapeutic agent comprising the formula I-L-P^2, wherein I is an immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region or fragment thereof that retains the ability to bind an Fc receptor; L is a linker group or a direct bond; and P^2 is a peptide capable of binding ~~a target protein~~ β-amyloid protein, the method comprising:

(1) screening a peptide library to identify one or more peptides which bind to ~~a target protein~~ β-amyloid protein;

(2) determining the amino acid sequence of at least one peptide which binds to ~~a target protein~~ β-amyloid protein; and

(3) producing a therapeutic agent comprising a peptide having the amino acid sequence identified in step (2), an immunoglobulin heavy chain constant region or fragment thereof that retains the ability to bind an Fc receptor, and a linker group or a direct bond.

75. **(Original)** The method of claim 74, wherein the peptide library comprises L-amino acid peptides.

76. **(Original)** The method of claim 74, wherein the peptide library comprises D-amino acid peptides.

77-85. **(Cancelled)**

86. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 84, wherein said target protein is a protein that is associated with a disease state.

87-93. **(Cancelled)**

94. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 74, wherein P is a fragment of β-AP that is capable of binding an amyloidgenic protein.

95. **(Withdrawn, Currently Amended)** The method of claim 94, wherein said fragment of β-AP is selected from the group consisting of $A\beta_{16-30}$, $A\beta_{17-20}$, $A\beta_{17-21}$, $A\beta_{16-25}$, ~~and~~ $A\beta_{1-25}$, $A\beta_{1-40}$, and $A\beta_{1-42}$

96. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 74, wherein P is a peptide comprising the structure

$$(Y\text{-}Xaa_1\text{-}Xaa_2\text{-}Xaa_3\text{-}Xaa_4\text{-}Z)$$

wherein Xaa_1, Xaa_2, Xaa_3 and Xaa_4 are each D-amino acid structures and at least two of Xaa_1, Xaa_2, Xaa_3 and Xaa_4 are, independently, selected from the group consisting of a D-leucine structure, a D-phenylalanine structure and a D-valine structure;

Y, which may or may not be present, is a structure having the formula $(Xaa)_a$, wherein Xaa is any D-amino acid structure and a is an integer from 1 to 15; and

Z, which may or may not be present, is a structure having the formula $(Xaa)_b$, wherein Xaa is any D-amino acid structure and b is an integer from 1 to 15.

97. **(Withdrawn)** The method of claim 74, wherein P is a peptide selected from the group consisting of: D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-Phe, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-phenethylamide, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Tyr-D-Phe, D-Leu-D-Val-D-IodoTyr-D-Phe, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-Tyr, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-IodoTyr, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-Ala, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Ala, D-Ala-D-Val-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Leu, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Tyr-D-Phe-D-Ala, D-Leu-D-Val-D-IodoTyr-D-Phe-D-Ala, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-Tyr-D-Ala, D-Leu-D-Val-D-Phe-D-IodoTyr-D-Ala, D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Val-D-Leu, D-Ala-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Val, D-Ala-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Val-D-Leu, D-Ala-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Leu-D-Leu, D-Leu-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Val-D-Leu, D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Val-D-Leu, D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Leu-D-Val, D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Leu, D-Ala-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Phe-D-Leu, Aβ(16-30), Aβ(10-25), Aβ(1-29), Aβ(1-40), and Aβ(1-42).

98. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 74, wherein said therapeutic agent is Aβ(16-30)-hFc.

99. (New) A method of preparing Aβ(16-30)-hFc comprising linking Aβ(16-30) to an antibody heavy chain constant region.

100. (New) The method of claim 74, wherein said I is selected from the group consisting of IgG, IgA, IgM, IgD and IgE, or a fragment thereof